



**CITY OF LODI
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

AGENDA TITLE: Presentation Regarding the 2004 Hospice Tree Lighting and 9th Annual Parade of Lights

MEETING DATE: November 17, 2004

PREPARED BY: Management Analyst, City Manager's Office

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None required

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Staff will present an overview of the events and invite the Mayor to give the welcome address at the December 2, 2004 Hospice Tree Lighting. Attached are copies of press releases for the events.

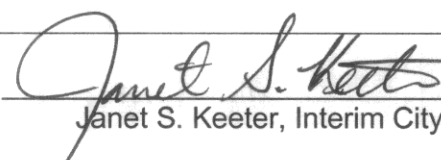
FUNDING: Not applicable



Janet L. Hamilton
Management Analyst

Attachments

cc: Pam Hayn, DLBP Executive Director
Cynthia, Loveland, Hospice of San Joaquin

APPROVED: 

Janet S. Keeter, Interim City Manager

For Immediate Release

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HOSPICE OF SAN JOAQUIN 'S ANNUAL TREE OF LIGHTS EVENT CELEBRATES THE WARMTH AND SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON

STOCKTON, CA – November 8, 2004 Each November, Hospice of San Joaquin starts off the holiday season with their annual Tree of Lights event. Trees adorned with hundreds of lights, each dedicated in someone's name, are lit in Stockton, Manteca and Lodi.

Tree lighting celebrations highlight this 6-week event. Ceremonies begin in Stockton on Tuesday, November 23 at 6PM by Delta College's Pacific Avenue entrance. Then on Tuesday, November 30, Manteca's lights will shine at 6PM on the grounds of the Doctor's Hospital of Manteca. On Thursday, December 2 at 5:30PM, Lodi celebrates the Tree of Lights as a kick-off to their annual Parade of Lights outside Lodi City Hall. Trees will remain lit thru Friday, December 31.

Each light represents a donation of \$5 to \$250 to Hospice of San Joaquin. In three San Joaquin County locations, evening skies are lit with the warm spirit of community support for hospice services for those at the end-of-life and their families. In its 16th year, this community event raised over \$90,000 in 2003.

Honor or remember a loved one or friend this holiday season by dedicating a light on the Hospice of San Joaquin Tree of Lights and support compassionate care for the terminally ill in our community. For more information, visit www.hospicesj.org or call 209-922-0242.

Community leaders sponsoring this event include PG&E, San Joaquin Delta College, The Record, Doctor's Hospital of Manteca, City of Lodi and F&M Bank.

About Hospice of San Joaquin

Established in 1980, Hospice of San Joaquin (HSJ) is a non-profit organization providing professional medical, emotional, spiritual, and educational support to individuals and their families coping with a terminal illness and grief. Under the direction of physicians, HSJ uses a variety of pain and symptom management methods to enhance patients' quality of life by providing them with comfort and dignity. Hospice services are typically received in the patient's home, however many hospice patients who are unable to remain at home are served in skilled nursing homes, assisted living residences and in the newly opened Hospice House, the first and only residential care facility for hospice patients in San Joaquin County located at 3888 Pacific Avenue in Stockton. HSJ provides care to anyone in need of its services, regardless of race, age, faith, diagnosis or financial status. For more information, please call 209.957.3888.

9TH ANNUAL DOWNTOWN LODI "PARADE OF LIGHTS"

Date: Thursday, December 2nd, 2004
Time: 6:17pm
Location: Downtown Lodi

The 9th Annual Parade of Lights will once again light up the streets of historic Downtown Lodi on Thursday, December 2nd beginning at 6:17pm, as over 100 brilliantly illuminated floats, dance troops, walking groups, marching bands, equestrian units, the Anheuser-Busch Clydesdale's and Santa pay tribute to this year's theme of "White Christmas" while making their way up Church Street to Lodi Avenue, and continuing down festively-decorated School Street to Elm where the parade concludes. Numerous food, drink and craft vendors will be available along the parade route and plenty of free seating and parking is available for those who arrive early. Parade will take place rain or shine. For more information or an application to participate in the parade, contact the Downtown Lodi Business Partnership at (209) 369-8052.

Pamela Hayn
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(209) 369-8052
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Downtown Lodi... It's The Place To Be